

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 NEA-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 ACDA-19 OMB-01

AEC-11 ARA-16 /177 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV:GHUMPHREY:SB

APPROVED BY EUR:AAHARTMAN

NEA:ALATHERTON (DRAFT)

EUR/WE:RDVINE (DRAFT)

EUR:JAARMITAGE

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R 131859Z FEB 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 029346

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS :PFOR, IT,UR, XF, XG, NATO, CSCE

SUBJ: GROMYKO VISITS TO WASHINGTON AND ROME

GENEVA FOR CSCE DEL

REF: STATE 24424; MOSCOW 1789

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. ITALIAN MINISTER TAMAGNINI CALLED ON
EUR DEPUTY ASST SECRETARY ARMITAGE FEBRUARY 7 FOR READOUT
ON GROMYKO VISIT. TAMAGNINI SAID THAT GROMYKO WILL VISIT
ROME FEBRUARY 20-22. END SUMMARY.

2. ARMITAGE SAID THAT MAJOR PORTION OF DISCUSSIONS
DURING GROMYKO VISIT, WHICH HAD NO AGREED AGENDA, WAS
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DEVOTED TO BILATERAL MATTERS, INCLUDING SECRETARY'S

FORTHCOMING TRIP TO USSR, AS WELL AS CSCE, BERLIN, AND MIDDLE EAST. MBFR WAS TOUCHED ON ONLY LIGHTLY, AND CUBA WAS NOT DISCUSSED. ARMITAGE PROVIDED RUNDOWN ON CSCE DISCUSSION, ALONG LINES OF STATE 24424.

3. REGARDING MIDDLE EAST, ARMITAGE NOTED THAT THERE WERE NO DISCUSSIONS IN DETAIL OF NEGOTIATIONS OR SETTLEMENT. GROMYKO PRESSED FOR JOINT US-SOVIET EFFORTS INCLUDING GREATER US-SOVIET ACTIVITY IN GENEVA ROLE, AND WE ARE MOVING IN THAT DIRECTION.

4. TAMAGNINI SHOWED INTEREST IN WHAT DISCUSSION IF ANY

HAD TAKEN PLACE CONCERNING CSCE FINAL PHASE, INTERPRETATION OF THE BERLIN QUADRIpartite AGREEMENT, SALT, INCREASED US DEFENSE BUDGET, AND TIMING OF PRESIDENTIAL VISIT TO USSR. ARMITAGE SAID THAT N* ATTEMPT HAD BEEN MADE TO REDEFINE QA OBLIGATIONS, AND DISCUSSION OF SALT II HAD NOT GOTTEN INTO SUBSTANTIVE ASPECTS. AS DEFENSE SECRETARY SCHLESINGER HAD POINTED OUT, US WISHED TO ACHIEVE AGREEMENT WITH USSR ON LIMITATION STRATEGIC ARMS BUT WILL TAKE NECESSARY STEPS TO PRECLUDE ANY POSSIBILITY OF SLIDING INTO INFERIOR MILITARY POSITION. ARMITAGE SAID HE HAD NOTHING TO COMMUNICATE ON DATE OF PRESIDENT'S TRIP TO USSR.

5. FORTHCOMING GROMYKO TRIP TO ROME, ACCORDING TO TAMAGNINI, IS IN RETURN FOR MORO VISIT TO USSR IN 1971, AND HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN SCHEDULED BEFORE MIDDLE EAST CRISIS TO TAKE PLACE IN OCTOBER 1973. HE DID NOT KNOW WHICH SIDE TOOK INITIATIVE IN ARRANGING NEW DATE. OTHER STANDING INVITATIONS ARE FOR BREZHNEV AND KOSYGIN TO VISIT ITALY (PRIME MINISTER ANDREOTTI VISITED USSR IN 1972) AND FOR PRESIDENT LEONI TO VISIT USSR (PODGORNY VISITED ITALY IN 1966). EXCEPT FOR GROMYKO VISIT, NO HIGH-LEVEL VISITS ARE PLANNED FOR NEAR FUTURE, HOWEVER. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, MINISTERIAL VISITS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE029346
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: GHUMPHREY:SB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740235/aaaabgpb.tel
Line Count: 97
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 24424; MOSCOW 1789
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 MAY 2002 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <13 JAN 2003 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GROMYKO VISITS TO WASHINGTON AND ROME GENEVA FOR CSCE DEL
TAGS: PFOR, IT, UR, XF, XG, NATO, CSCE, (GROMYKO, ANDREY ANDREYEVICH), (TAMAGNINI, GIULIO)
To: ROME
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005